

SPAWN[®]



156



DIGITAL
EDITION

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DEDICATED TO
TERADA KATSUYA

SPAWN 155 SUMMARY:

As Spawn desperately fights to prevent Armageddon tearing the world apart, he learns that he is the host for a legion of dead souls. He has summoned the spirits of Kumiko and Hiroshi to battle the zombie hordes invading Tennessee, while he travels to India to face Kali, Goddess of Destruction.


Meanwhile, Wanda's twin three-year-olds are behaving very strangely.



TODD McFARLANE
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GIVE ME
THE BAT,
SWEETHEART.

WILL
YOU DO
THAT FOR
ME?

SURE.
I'M FINISHED
WITH IT.

I JUST
WANTED
TO *TEACH*
JAKIE-POO A
LESSON.

SHE KNEW IT
WOULD COME TO
THIS. SHE NEVER
PUT IT INTO WORDS.
BUT SHE ALWAYS
KNEW...



SHOULD I GET THE CARPET CLEANER?

JAKE?
OH GOD, JAKIE...

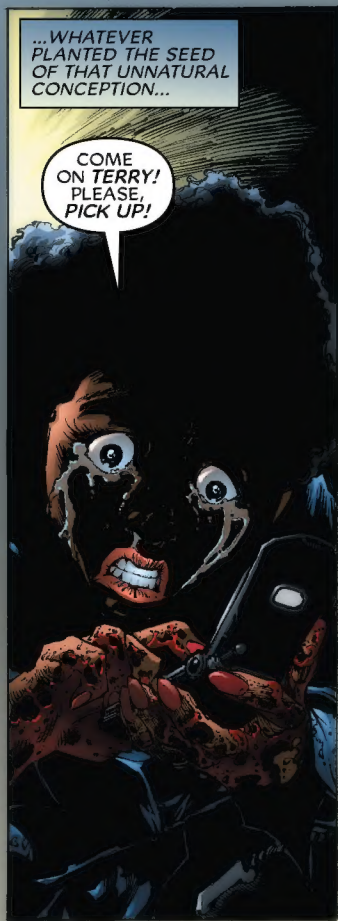


IT BEGAN FOUR YEARS AGO. THE NIGHT OF THE STORM, WHEN TERRY DROVE AWAY INTO THE DARKNESS, LEAVING HER ALONE WITH CYAN.

SOMETHING VISITED HER THAT NIGHT...

I NEED AN AMBULANCE. THERE'S BEEN A...AN ACCIDENT... MY SON...

...I THINK HE'S DEAD.



...WHATEVER PLANTED THE SEED OF THAT UNNATURAL CONCEPTION...

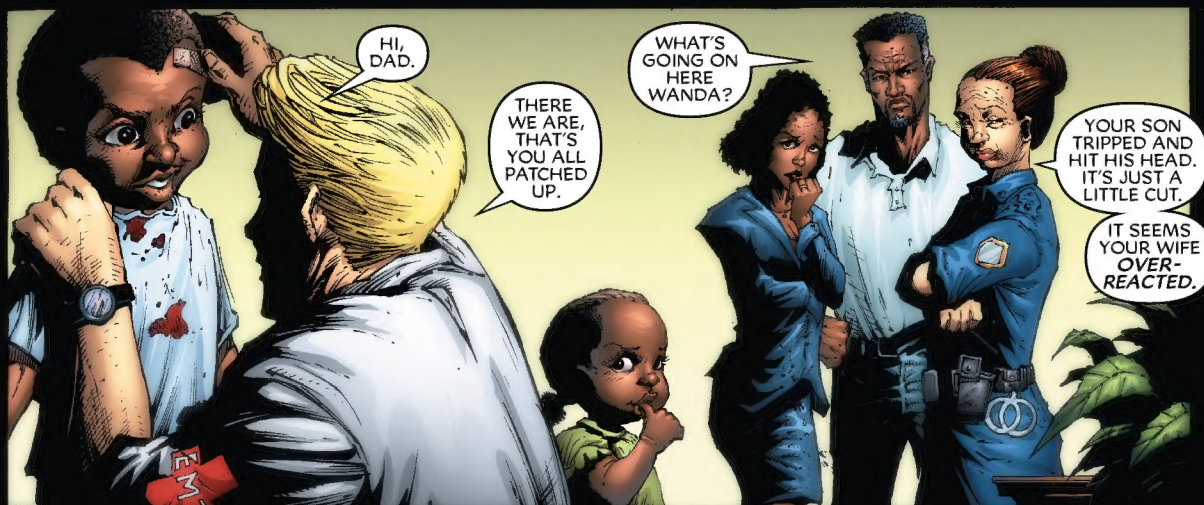
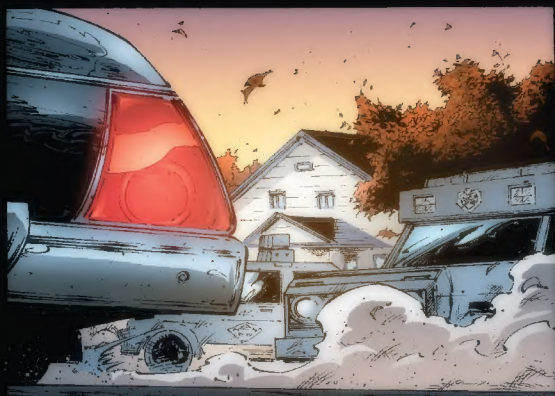
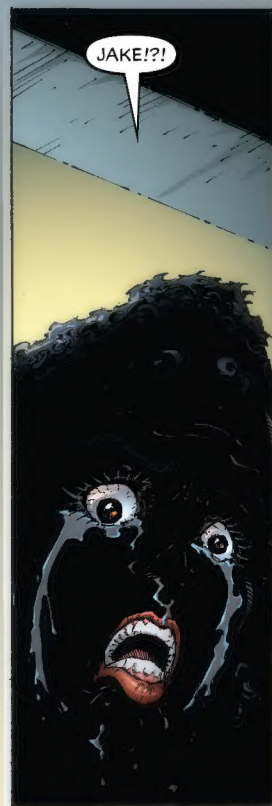
COME ON TERRY! PLEASE, PICK UP!

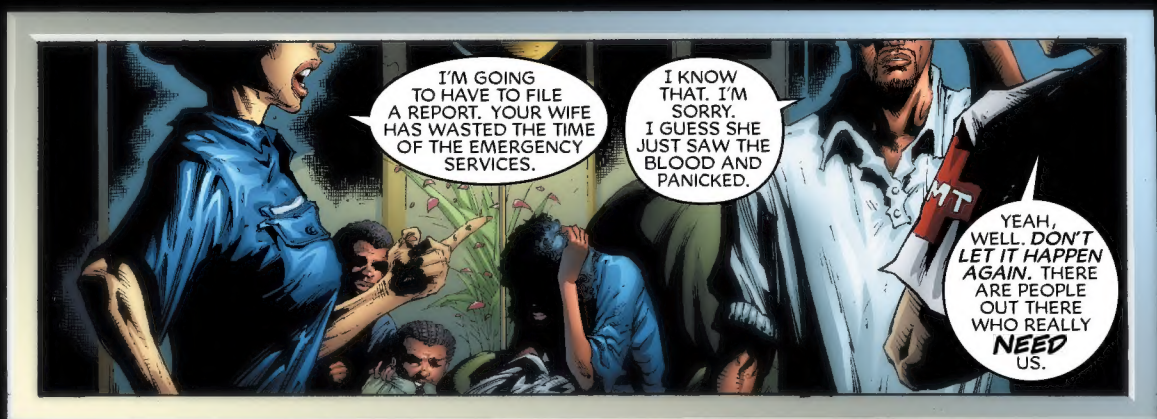


...IT WAS NOT HUMAN.

TERRY! THANK GOD! YOU HAVE TO COME HOME. IT'S JAKE...

I THINK KATIE KILLED JAKE.





I'M GOING TO HAVE TO FILE A REPORT. YOUR WIFE HAS WASTED THE TIME OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES.

I KNOW THAT. I'M SORRY. I GUESS SHE JUST SAW THE BLOOD AND PANICKED.

YEAH, WELL, DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN. THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO REALLY **NEED** US.



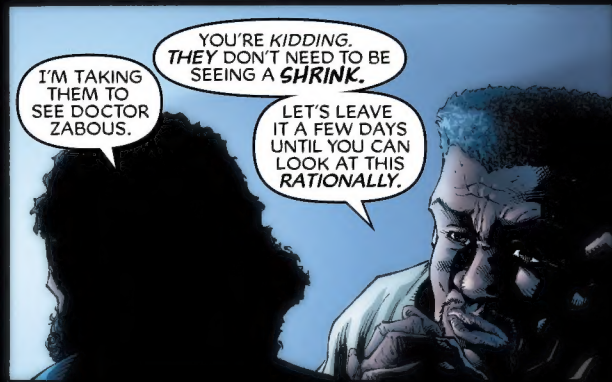
I'M TELLING YOU, TERRY, SHE BEAT HIM WITH YOUR BASEBALL BAT. THERE WAS BLOOD EVERYWHERE.

I DON'T SEE ANY BLOOD.



THEY CLEANED IT UP.

RIGHT. **THEY** CLEANED IT UP.



I'M TAKING THEM TO SEE DOCTOR ZABOVS.

YOU'RE KIDDING. **THEY** DON'T NEED TO BE SEEING A **SHRINK**.

LET'S LEAVE IT A FEW DAYS UNTIL YOU CAN LOOK AT THIS **RATIONALLY**.



THIS CAN'T WAIT. I'VE CALLED DOCTOR ZABOVS AND SHE CAN FIT US IN THIS EVENING.

I'M SO **AFRAID** TERRY...



I'M AFRAID THOSE CHILDREN ARE **MONSTERS**.

BENGAL,
NORTHERN
INDIA. SPAWN
FACES KALI,
THE HINDU
GODDESS OF
DESTRUCTION.

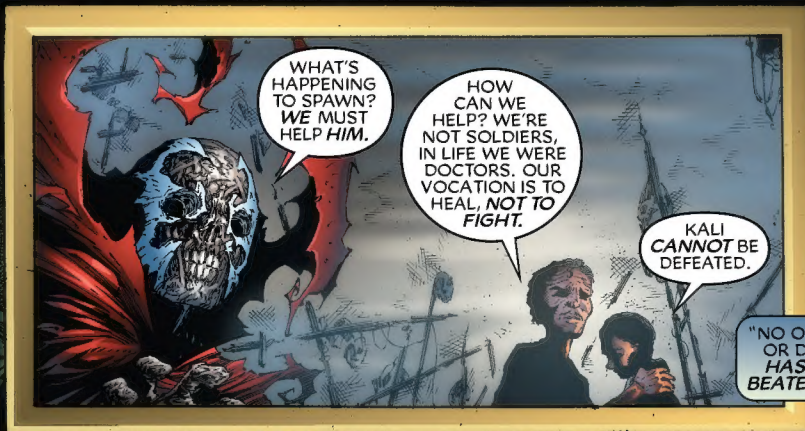
YOU'VE
FED ON
YOUR LAST
CORPSE,
KALI.

YOU'RE NOT
FIGHTING A
DEMON NOW,
HELLSPAWN.

THESE
CHAINS
CANNOT
BIND A
GOD.

AAAAARRRRGGH!!

SPAWN
HAS NEVER
EXPERIENCED
PAIN LIKE
THIS. IT FEELS
AS IF HIS
OWN LIMBS
HAVE BEEN
SEVERED BY
BLADES OF
RED-HOT
STEEL.



WHAT'S HAPPENING TO SPAWN? WE MUST HELP HIM.

HOW CAN WE HELP? WE'RE NOT SOLDIERS, IN LIFE WE WERE DOCTORS. OUR VOCATION IS TO HEAL, NOT TO FIGHT.

KALI CANNOT BE DEFEATED.

"NO ONE, GOD OR DEMON, HAS EVER BEATEN HER."



I FEEL THE EMPTINESS IN YOU, HELLSPAWN. I HEAR THE TORMENTED CRIES OF THE SOULS TRAPPED INSIDE YOUR UNDEAD CARCASS.

THEY CRY OUT TO BE FREE OF YOU. THEY BEG FOR DEATH.

I WILL GIVE THEM WHAT THEY DESIRE.

NO!! THESE SOULS ARE PART OF ME!



YOU WISH TO PREVENT THE ARMAGEDDON?

I NEED THEM TO SAVE THIS WORLD FROM ARMAGEDDON!



YES.

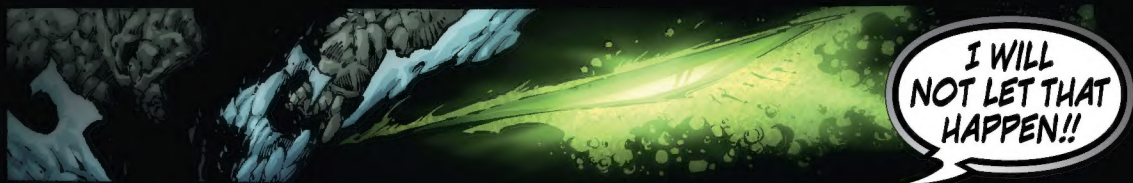


WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO AVOID THIS WAR? ARE YOU NOT A HELLSPAWN? SURELY WARFARE IS YOUR ONLY PURPOSE.

WEREN'T YOU CREATED TO BE HELL'S WARRIOR?

I CHOOSE WHO I FIGHT FOR.

IF THIS WAR HAPPENS, EVERY HUMAN BEING ON THIS PLANET WILL DIE.



I WILL NOT LET THAT HAPPEN!!

DEATH WILL BE A BLESSING FOR THEM. THEY WILL LEAVE THIS MISERABLE WORLD TO BE REBORN IN A BETTER PLACE.



NO. THE HUMAN RACE WILL CEASE TO EXIST. THE CYCLE OF DEATH AND REBIRTH WILL BE ENDED.



AND THERE WILL BE PEACE ON EARTH.



FORGIVE ME GODDESS. IF YOU ARE WHAT YOU SAY, THEN YOU KNOW THAT THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH **MUST** CONTINUE.





YOU HAVE COURAGE, LITTLE MAN.

THERE ARE FEW WHO DARE LOOK ME IN THE FACE.

I DO NOT FEAR DEATH, BUT I FEAR THE ANNIHILATION OF THE WORLD IF YOU DESTROY THE HELLSPAWN.



SO, I WILL OFFER YOU A BARGAIN.

WHAT SACRIFICE WILL YOU MAKE TO APPEASE ME AND SAVE THIS CREATURE?

WHAT IS MOST PRECIOUS TO YOU?



NO AMAL! PLEASE! DON'T ASK ME THAT.



WE MUST. THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO LET GO.



THIS IS ALL THAT TIES US TO OUR EARTHLY LIFE.



THE DAY WE
DIED, WE WERE ON
OUR WAY TO VISIT
SHANTI'S PARENTS
IN MYSORE.

WE HAD
GOOD NEWS
FOR THEM.



BUT THE MOUNTAIN
ROAD WAS TOO
NARROW TO
AVOID THE TRUCK.
WE NEVER STOOD
A CHANCE.



MY WIFE WAS
PREGNANT.

THREE
LIVES WERE
LOST THAT
DAY.



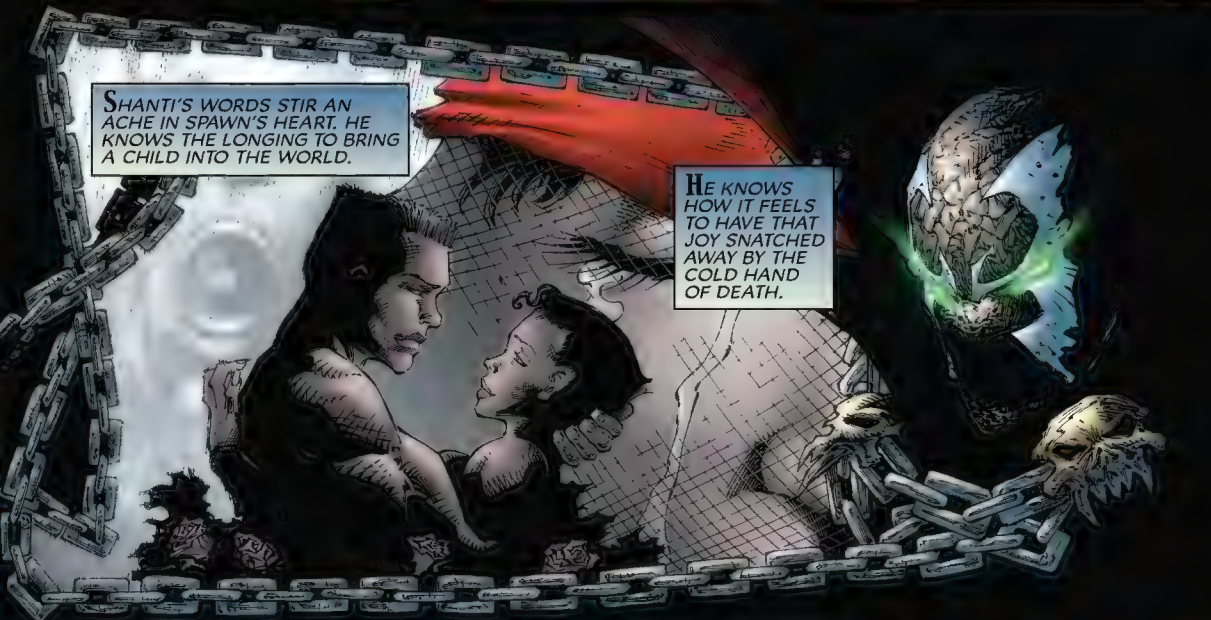
IF THIS CHILD
WAS UNBORN, THEN
SHE WAS NEVER TRULY
ALIVE. SHE EXISTS IN A
LIMBO BETWEEN HER
PAST LIFE AND THE
NEXT.

I KNOW THAT.
BUT IT HAS BEEN
SO HARD TO
GIVE HER UP.



WE WANTED THIS CHILD SO MUCH. WE WAITED SO LONG.

IF WE LOSE HER NOW, WE'LL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN.



SHANTI'S WORDS STIR AN ACHE IN SPAWN'S HEART. HE KNOWS THE LONGING TO BRING A CHILD INTO THE WORLD.

HE KNOWS HOW IT FEELS TO HAVE THAT JOY SNATCHED AWAY BY THE COLD HAND OF DEATH.



WE HAVE ALL ETERNITY. WE **WILL** SEE HER AGAIN.

YOU KNOW WE HAVE TO DO THIS.




TAKE HER THEN.



KALI IS LIFE AND DEATH, CREATOR AND DESTROYER. BUT ABOVE ALL ELSE SHE IS A MOTHER.

YOU SEE, SPAWN--YOU HANG ONTO YOUR MISERABLE HALF-LIFE. YOU FIGHT, YOU KILL. YOU DESTROY. BUT THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO GAIN A VICTORY.

A large, blue-skinned, horned demon with glowing red eyes and yellow armbands. He is looking down at a family of three (a man, a woman, and a child) who are standing in a misty, desolate landscape. The family is looking up at him with expressions of fear and hope. The demon's body is covered in intricate patterns and he has a menacing, yet somber expression.


THESE PEOPLE
ARE WILLING TO GIVE
UP A LIFE A **THOUSAND**
TIMES MORE PRECIOUS
THAN YOURS.

THE LIFE
OF AN **UNBORN**
CHILD, A PURE
SOUL, UNTAINTED
BY THE PASSIONS
OF HUMAN
EXISTENCE.

I ACCEPT THIS
SACRIFICE.

I GIVE
THIS CHILD
THE GIFT OF
DEATH...

...SO THAT
SHE MAY
BE **BORN**
AGAIN.

The scene is a dark, chaotic pile of bodies and debris. In the foreground, a large, glowing green skull with a single eye is visible. A red cape is draped over the scene. In the background, a large, dark, winged figure is seen flying through a cloudy sky. The overall atmosphere is one of horror and tragedy.

THE COURAGE
AND WISDOM OF
SHANTI AND AMAL
HAS SAVED YOU. I
WILL SPARE YOU,
HELLSPAWN...

...FOR
NOW.

LEARN
YOUR
LESSON
WELL.

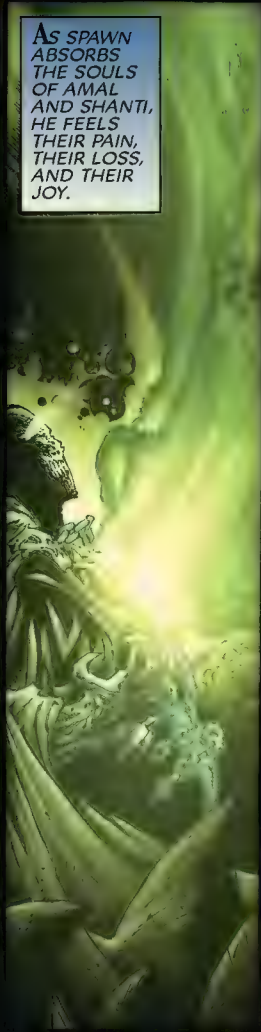


I'M
GRATEFUL.
I OWE
YOU-

-NOTHING.

OUR CHILD
DIDN'T BELONG
HERE. IT WAS OUR
OWN SELFISHNESS
THAT KEPT HER
WITH US.

I DON'T
KNOW WHY
WE WERE
CHOSEN TO
BE HERE, BUT
IF THAT'S WHAT
FATE HAS
DECIDED,
WE'RE READY
TO JOIN
YOU.



AS SPAWN
ABSORBS
THE SOULS
OF AMAL
AND SHANTI,
HE FEELS
THEIR PAIN,
THEIR LOSS,
AND THEIR
JOY.



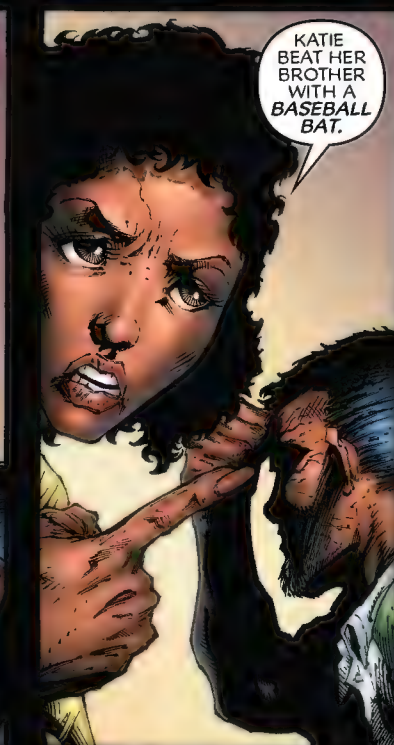
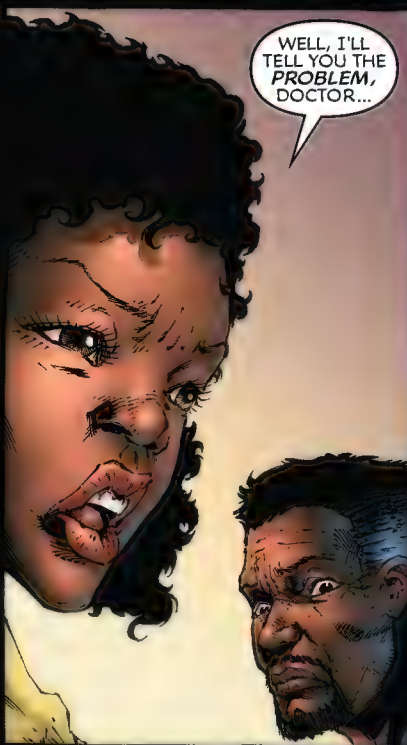
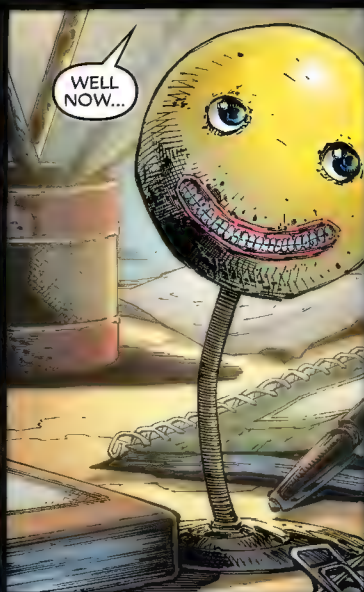
IT IS ALMOST
TOO MUCH
FOR HIM TO
BEAR.

AL?
WHAT'S
WRONG?

NOTHING.
NOTHING'S
WRONG.



WE'RE
DONE
HERE.





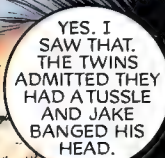
AND THIS
HAPPENED
THIS AFTER-
NOON?



I--I CAN'T
EXPLAIN IT. THERE
WAS SO MUCH
BLOOD.



THERE
WAS A CUT
ON JAKE'S
HEAD.



YES. I
SAW THAT.
THE TWINS
ADMITTED THEY
HAD A TUSSLE
AND JAKE
BANGED HIS
HEAD.



A
TUSSLE?!



IT WAS
A BRUTAL
ASSAULT.



UH HUH.
SO
WHAT ELSE
HAS BEEN
BOTHERING
YOU?



THIS HAS
BEEN GOING
ON FOR
YEARS. LITTLE
THINGS
MOSTLY, BUT
WHEN YOU
PUT THEM
TOGETHER...



WANDA,
PLEASE...



EVEN
WHEN
THEY WERE
TODDLERS...
JUST AFTER
THEIR FIRST
BIRTH-
DAY...



NOT
THAT...



YES, TERRY.
THAT!

"THE TWINS WERE PLAYING WITH MAGNETIC LETTERS, STICKING THEM ON THE ICEBOX. THEY SPELLED OUT **KILL MOMMY**."

"CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW THAT FELT? **KILL MOMMY!**"

KILL MOMMY

AND THEY WERE **HOW** OLD? **TWELVE MONTHS??!**

ARE YOU SAYING THEY COULD **SPELL** AT ONE YEAR OLD?

NO. THAT'S JUST IT. THEY COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE-

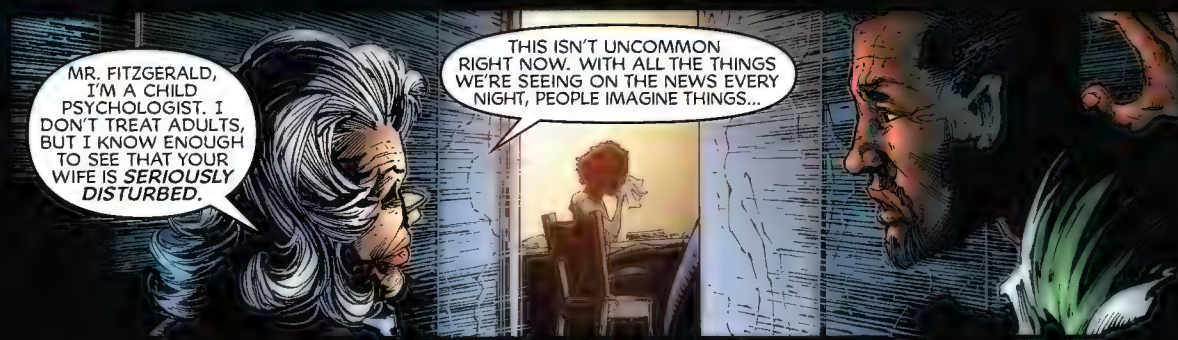
HONEY, CALM DOWN.

I WILL **NOT** CALM DOWN! THEY'RE NOT NORMAL!

WHEN I LOOK AT THEM...

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO **LOVE** THEM?

HOW **CAN** I WHEN I'M NOT EVEN SURE THEY'RE OURS?







WELCOME BACK, SIMMONS-SAN.

AL! WHAT HAPPENED IN INDIA? WAS IT REALLY KALI?

DID YOU BEAT HER?



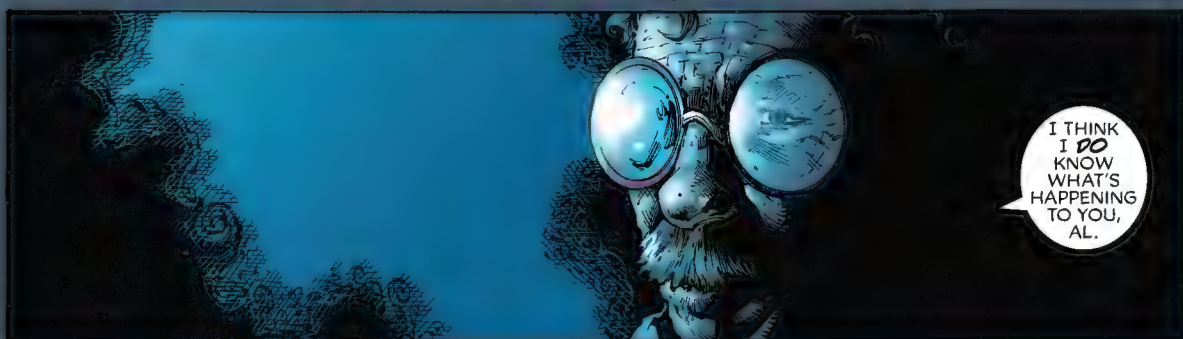
BEAT HER? SHE COULD HAVE CRUSHED ME LIKE A COCKROACH.

I NEED TO KNOW WHAT I'VE BECOME, MAX.

I HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE FORCES INSIDE ME, OR WE CAN ALL KISS OUR ASSES GOODBYE!



UH, OKAY, WELL, I'VE BEEN LOOKING INTO THE DEATH OF HIROSHI AND KUMIKO AND I'VE ALSO DONE AN INTERNET SEARCH ON CHRISTOPHER.



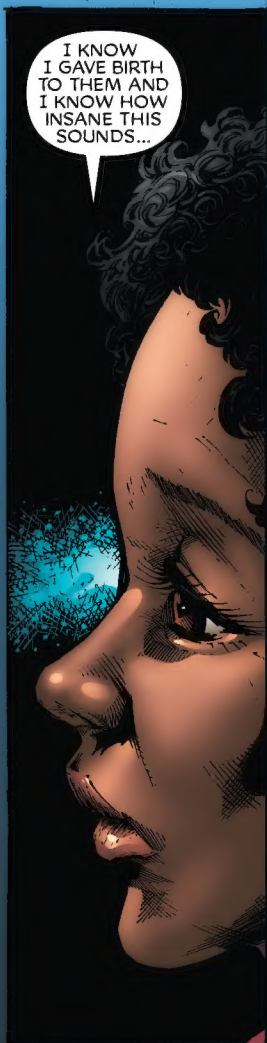
I THINK I *DO* KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU, AL.



WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU WANDA?

WHAT YOU SAID... ABOUT THE TWINS NOT BEING MINE?

OURS. I SAID THEY'RE NOT **OURS** TERRY.



I KNOW I GAVE BIRTH TO THEM AND I KNOW HOW INSANE THIS SOUNDS...



...I KNOW...



PLEASE TRUST ME TERRY.



I'M TRYING, WANDA.

I'M TRYING.



MEANWHILE...

I'M BORED.

LET'S **DO** SOMETHING.

OKAY.



I KNOW WHERE DAD KEEPS SOMETHING REALLY COOL.





WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING!?!
YOU ARE
GOING TO GET
IN SO MUCH
TROUBLE.

NO
WE WON'T.
EVERYBODY
KNOWS MOMMY'S
CRAZY. GONNA
BE ALL OVER
THE NEWS.

CRAZY LADY
KILLS HER HUSBAND
AND TEN-YEAR-OLD
DAUGHTER...

...THEN
BLOWS
HER
BRAINS
OUT.

TO BE CONTINUED





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE